# INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY 302 West Washington Street Indianapolis, IN 46204

INDIANA EMERGENCY RESPONSE COMMISSION (IERC)
TRAINING COMMITTEE
Firefighter's Union Hall
748 Massachusetts Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
January 14, 2019, 9:45 am

# **COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Bernie Beier—Local Government Representative, Chair Ian Ewusi—IDHS
Larry Hamby—Designee for IDHS Executive Director

# **COMMITTEE MEMBERS ON THE PHONE:**

James Greeson—State Fire Marshal

# **COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Matt Bilkey—Designee for Superintendent of ISP Charles Heflin—IDHS

# The following Commissioners, IDHS staff, and audience members were present:

Ian Ewusi—IDHS
Dawn Mason—IDHS
Sarah Chaney—IDHS
Madison Roe—IDHS
Kraig Kinney—IDHS Attorney
Madison Roe—IDHS
Jeff Larmore—Local Government Representative
Allison Moore—Monroe County LEPC/EMA

# WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Mr. Beier welcomed everyone to the Training Committee meeting and requested the determination of a quorum.

#### **QUORUM**

Ms. Mason indicated a quorum was present.

## **CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

A motion to accept May 14th, 2018, meeting minutes was made by Mr. Hamby and seconded by Mr. Ewusi. No further discussion occurred.

#### **Roll Call Vote**

Mr. Beier-Yes

Mr. Hamby—Yes

Mr. Greeson —Yes

Mr. Ewusi—Yes

# **OLD BUSINESS**

## Planning & Training Resource List

Mr. Beier stated this is still the list even as the IERC moved from compulsory to advisory. Mr. Ewusi stated this has been communicated to the LEPCs.

No further discussion occurred.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

## LEPC Exercise Requirements

Mr. Beier stated that we still see a wide variety of quality and size. He stated LEPCs seem to still be unsure about requirements. Mr. Beier stated that this committee should revisit the topic of exercises with the LEPCs. He stated his understanding of the LEPC program was to train first responders and planners to work with fixed facilities that are reporting companies which can be transportation but involves a fixed facility. Mr. Hamby stated he agreed and he is also worried about the exercise quality in regards to transportation. He stated the goal is to engage first responders instead of handing it over. Mr. Hamby stated HSEEP requirements are only about evaluation instead of the quality. He stated training is not exercise and exercise is not training.

Mr. Beier stated he agreed with some of Mr. Hamby's points and believes this is an evaluation of the LEPC plan. Ms. Chaney commented that current process is to submit the exercise proposal and exercise final reports to IDHS Exercise staff to check for Homeland Security Exercise Evaluation Program (HSEEP) compliance. She stated eventually she and Ms. Mason would be trained in HSEEP and able to further evaluate some of these concerns. She expressed concern that some of the issues brought up are in regards to the training first responders receive before the exercise. Mr. Beier stated he wants the LEPCs to understand the HSEEP tiers from seminars to full scale. He stated some of the poorly planned exercises could be due to inexperience in exercise development on the local level.

Mr. Ewusi stated that some of the same issues that LEPCs faced 20 years ago are still an issue today. He stated that for example Brown County doesn't have a fixed facilities to work with and Orange County has fixed facilities but no extremely hazards substances (EHS). Mr. Beier questioned why those counties have an LEPC. Mr. Ewusi noted that LEPCs do not only deal with chemicals, but they provide first responders educational opportunities to response to hazardous materials incidents. He stated there are events that happen outside of a fixed facility an example is a

spill on I-65 running through Seymour, Indiana would impact the Jackson County LEPC. Mr. Ewusi stated LEPCs bring first responders, industry and other organizations together to work on hazardous incidents. Mr. Beier stated local emergency planning whether it is a hazmat incident or weather related is the function of the EMA and that his main concern is about the fixed facility. Staff indicated they could work with the IDHS division of Training, Planning, and Exercise for the LEPCs to increase the exercise quality and take away lessons. Mr. Beier agreed to this plan for addressing exercises.

No further discussion occurred.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Ewusi and seconded by Ms. Hamby. The meeting adjourned at 10:25 am.

## Roll Call Vote

Mr. Beier—Yes

Mr. Greeson—Yes

Mr. Hamby —Yes

Mr. Ewusi—Yes

## **NEXT MEETING**

Marion County Health Department

4012 North Rural St.

Indianapolis, Indiana 46205

March 11th, 2019

Bernie Beier, Chair